

### Remarks

Claims 16, 63-87, 89-103, 131 and 132 were previously pending in the application. In the present response, Claims 63-103 have been canceled and no new have been added. Accordingly, after entry of the response Claims 16, 131, and 132 will be pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

### Claim Rejections

Claims 16, 63-87, 89-103 and 131-132 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement; Claims 63-67, 71-75, 78-84, 87, 89-93 and 96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative obvious over Jurgensen et al. (WO 02/18672); Claims 16 and 131-132 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurgensen et al. (WO 02/18672 or US 2003/0221624) in view of Tabata et al. (U.S. 2003/0133854); Claims 63-87, 89-93 and 96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurgensen et al. (WO 02/18672 or US 2003/0221624) in view of Ikeda et al. (JP 62211914); Claims 94-95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurgenson et al (WO 02/18672 or US 2003/0221624) in view of MacLeish et al (US 6113984); Claims 97-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurgenson et al (WO 02/18672 or US 2003/0221624) in view of Van de Walle et al (20020054745); and Claims 97-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurgenson et al (WO 02/18672 or US 2003/0221624) in view of Van de Walle et al (20020054745) and further in view of Hirooka (US 4812331).

Claims 63-103 have been cancelled and independent Claims 16 and 131 have been amended to recite "wherein the chambers are supplied with reactant gas via gas inlets that

are substantially flush with tops of the chambers and the reactant gas flows through narrow gas channels of the chambers such that laminar flow of the reactant gas is substantially maintained within the chambers.”

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references, taken either alone or in combination with one another, either disclose or make obvious “gas inlets that are substantially flush with tops of the chambers” in combination with the other claimed limitations. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 16 and 63, as well as Claim 132 which depends from independent Claim 131, are allowable.

Support for this amendment can be found in Fig. 5 of the subject patent application as originally filed, for example. Fig. 5 clearly shows the gas inlet 112 being flush with the tops 131 of the chambers. That is, the gas inlet does not extend downwardly into the chamber as it does according to Jurgensen (see Fig. 1), for example. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

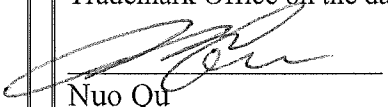
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion.

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 08-1394. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (949) 752-7040 is welcomed and encouraged.


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Respectfully submitted,

  
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